

REMARKS

This present amendment is being herewith submitted in order to place this continuation application in better condition for examination. In this respect, the applicant has amended the specification to recite the chain of applications upon which priority is based. Other corrections similar to those made in the previous application are also made herein.

With respect to the cited prior art, the applicant references that prior art cited in the previous application, since the claims in this present application have a structure similar to the claims in that previous application.

Slight changes have been made to the claims in the instant application compared to those in the previous application. In this present application, Claims 8-16, for example, do not call for the plasma operated display panel. Rather, these claims call for a relatively thin high definition and high resolution display panel. In short, this eliminates the conventional prior art displays, such as those of nixi tubes, cathode ray tube displays, diode matrix displays, and the like. None of the those prior displays are relatively thin and certainly are not high resolution and high definition displays. These slight changes only afford the applicant that opportunity to encompass other similar types of displays which may be developed in the future and which are not necessarily based on a plasma, per se. Nevertheless, it is believed that these claims should be allowable, since corresponding

claims containing the plasma operated display was allowable in the previous application.

Claim 17 of this present application differs from Claim 17 of the previous application as originally submitted, in that it calls for the computer means operating on the basis of a series of sequential programmed instructions, either at a predetermined time or on a real time basis. Moreover, the claim calls for the dedicated computer means which operates the display.

An examination of prior art cited in the applicant's previous application and, for that matter, the parent utility patent application, will reveal that there is no such answering structure. Indeed, that prior art has been discussed thoroughly and repeatedly in these previous applications. As a result, the remarks with regard to these prior art references are incorporated herein by reference to those previous applications. Notwithstanding, there is not one reference which shows the use of a dedicated computer in a display sign for addressing the display screen.

Several of the systems do use a computer system, but they are not incorporated in the sign and dedicated to the operation of that sign. A simple example is the Malec, et al Patent No. 5,287,266 which uses a central based computer operated system but only a display screen on the individual carts. The other references, such as the Dummond, Jr., et al Patent No. 5,218,629 discloses a display screen on a bus. Dummond, Jr., et al is silent as to where the screen is located, although it would appear, based on a simple reading, that it is not located at that sign. Amo, et al Patent


No. 5,844,181 discloses another system for display of information. Again, this is a very different type of system and is essentially a news presentation system. In short, there is no prior art reference which even begins to anticipate the subject matter as presented in Claims 17 and 18.

Claims 19-23 similarly do not call for the plasma operated display screen. However, and for the same reasons discussed previously, it is believed that these claims are allowable.

In view of the foregoing, an early action on the merits of the claims and allowance of these claims is therefore respectfully solicited.

Dated: Nov. 6, 2001

Respectfully submitted,


ROBERT J. SCHAAP
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 20,577
(818) 346-6555

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231 on NOV. 6, 2001.

(Signature)

Date of Signature: NOV. 6, 2001